
By: **Senators Middleton and Dyson**

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2004

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Young Farmers Advisory Board**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Young Farmers Advisory Board; specifying the
4 membership, terms of membership, and duties of the Advisory Board; requiring
5 the Governor to make certain appointments to the Advisory Board; providing for
6 the election of a chairperson, vice chairperson, and secretary of the Advisory
7 Board; establishing meeting requirements for the Advisory Board; requiring the
8 Department of Agriculture to provide certain staffing; prohibiting a member of
9 the Advisory Board from receiving certain compensation and authorizing the
10 receipt of certain reimbursement; requiring certain Advisory Board members to
11 attend certain meetings and submit certain reports; providing for the
12 termination of this Act; and generally relating to the establishment,
13 membership, and duties of the Young Farmers Advisory Board.

14 BY adding to

15 Article - Agriculture

16 Section 2-1001 through 2-1005, inclusive, to be under the new subtitle "Subtitle
17 10. Young Farmers Advisory Board"

18 Annotated Code of Maryland

19 (1999 Replacement Volume and 2003 Supplement)

20 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
21 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

22 **Article - Agriculture**

23 **SUBTITLE 10. YOUNG FARMERS ADVISORY BOARD.**

24 2-1001.

25 THERE IS A YOUNG FARMERS ADVISORY BOARD IN THE DEPARTMENT.

1 2-1002.

2 (A) THE YOUNG FARMERS ADVISORY BOARD SHALL CONSIST OF 12 MEMBERS
3 APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR.

4 (B) OF THE 12 MEMBERS:

5 (1) ONE SHALL BE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE;

6 (2) ONE SHALL BE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND
7 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT;

8 (3) ONE SHALL BE FROM THE FORESTRY PROGRAM WITHIN THE
9 DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES;

10 (4) ONE SHALL BE FROM THE FARM BUREAU; AND

11 (5) EIGHT SHALL BE APPOINTED FROM THE GENERAL PUBLIC.

12 (C) TO THE EXTENT PRACTICABLE, THE GOVERNOR SHALL ATTEMPT TO
13 ENSURE REGIONAL DIVERSITY AMONG THE MEMBERS OF THE ADVISORY BOARD
14 APPOINTED FROM THE GENERAL PUBLIC.

15 (D) EACH MEMBER FROM THE GENERAL PUBLIC SHALL:

16 (1) BE INTERESTED IN THE PRESERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF
17 AGRICULTURE AND PRESERVATION OF THE AGRICULTURAL WAY OF LIFE IN
18 MARYLAND;

19 (2) BE UNDER THE AGE OF 45 YEARS AT THE BEGINNING OF A MEMBER'S
20 TERM;

21 (3) DERIVE AT LEAST 50% OF THE MEMBER'S PERSONAL INCOME FROM
22 FARMING OR AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES IN THE STATE; AND

23 (4) BE A RESIDENT OF THE STATE.

24 (E) (1) EXCEPT FOR THE INITIAL TERMS OF THE ADVISORY BOARD, THE
25 TERM OF A MEMBER SHALL BE 3 YEARS.

26 (2) (I) THE TERMS OF MEMBERS ARE STAGGERED AS REQUIRED BY
27 THE TERMS PROVIDED FOR MEMBERS OF THE ADVISORY BOARD ON OCTOBER 1, 2004.

28 (II) THE TERMS OF THE INITIAL MEMBERS SHALL BE STAGGERED
29 EVENLY BETWEEN 2 YEARS AND 3 YEARS AS THE ADVISORY BOARD SHALL
30 DETERMINE AT THE BOARD'S FIRST MEETING.

1 2-1003.

2 THE ADVISORY BOARD SHALL:

3 (1) ANNUALLY ELECT FROM ITS MEMBERS A CHAIRPERSON, A VICE
4 CHAIRPERSON, AND A SECRETARY OF THE ADVISORY BOARD AT THE ADVISORY
5 BOARD'S FIRST MEETING OF THE CALENDAR YEAR;

6 (2) COMMUNICATE TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC, THE FEDERAL
7 GOVERNMENT, THE STATE GOVERNMENT, AND MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL
8 COMMISSION THE IMPORTANCE OF YOUNG AND BEGINNING FARMERS TO
9 AGRICULTURE IN THE STATE;

10 (3) IDENTIFY AND ADDRESS ISSUES RELATING TO YOUNG AND
11 BEGINNING FARMERS IN THE STATE AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE
12 MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION;

13 (4) ESTABLISH COMMITTEES, AS NECESSARY, TO DEVELOP PROJECTS
14 RELATING TO THE ASPECTS OF LIFE FOR YOUNG AND BEGINNING FARMERS IN THE
15 STATE;

16 (5) HOLD MEETINGS AT LEAST ONCE DURING EACH CALENDAR
17 QUARTER OF THE YEAR; AND

18 (6) ADOPT A MISSION STATEMENT AND ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES
19 TO IMPLEMENT THIS SUBTITLE.

20 2-1004.

21 (A) A MEMBER OF THE ADVISORY BOARD:

22 (1) MAY NOT RECEIVE COMPENSATION; BUT

23 (2) IS ENTITLED TO REIMBURSEMENT FOR EXPENSES UNDER THE
24 STANDARD STATE TRAVEL REGULATIONS, AS PROVIDED IN THE STATE BUDGET.

25 (B) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE STAFF FOR THE ADVISORY BOARD.

26 2-1005.

27 THE CHAIRPERSON, OR THE CHAIRPERSON'S DESIGNEE, SHALL:

28 (1) ATTEND MEETINGS OF THE MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL
29 COMMISSION; AND

30 (2) PROVIDE A QUARTERLY REPORT TO THE MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL
31 COMMISSION.

32 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take
33 effect October 1, 2004. It shall remain effective for a period of 3 years and, at the end

1 of September 30, 2007, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this
2 Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.